

Testimony Submitted to the CT General Assembly related to Sunday Bow hunting February 25 2013

Dear CT Assembly members,

I am a Killingworth Resident, a parent, and a responsible bow hunter. I am **strongly in favor of allowing Sunday bow hunting in CT**. It is long over-due! We need to work with hunters to help solve the problems of widespread Lyme's disease and automobile strikes, which are costly issues. Over-sized herds force deer to die cruel deaths of starvation in winters like the one we are currently experiencing.

Experienced bow hunters are ready, willing, and able to help! Bow hunting makes almost zero noise and has a very low impact on the environment.

Hunters provide valuable meat to homeless shelters in the state. Weekends are prime time for youth mentoring. Taking young people out hunting gets them away from the violent images that they are exposed to in the unregulated media, television, and Hollywood, and teaches lessons of responsibility, accountability, and focus. Young people need this kind of mentoring now more than ever.

Besides all of that, hunters provide valuable dollars to the CT economy and to wildlife conservation efforts through licensing fees and hunting related purchases. Some hunters like myself have been forced to look elsewhere for options in adjoining states so that they can hunt all weekend. That is an unfortunate loss to CT's economy and tax base, at a time when budgets are stretched thin. Allowing Sunday hunting could recoup that lost revenue.

Most working people can't hunt during the week, and prohibiting Sunday bow hunting cuts their hunting time significantly. Denying Sunday hunting on private land is unfair, especially since those landholders pay taxes on Sunday, just as they do for every other day of the week.

With all of the recent derogatory press unfairly targeted at sportsman, CT hunters desperately need something to look forward to.

Please ALLOW Sunday Bow Hunting in CT!

Respectfully,

Hank Altman
Killingworth, CT